WHISKERS POINT PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

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Approved by:

John Metcalfe
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

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Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: February 12 2003

WHISKERS POINT PROVINCIAL PARK

Whiskers Point Park is located on the eastern shore of McLeod Lake, along Highway 97, 130 km north of Prince George. It is 116 ha in size and consists of a sandy point and an area of old growth forest.

Primary Role
The park's primary role is to provide lakeshore recreation for Highway 97 travellers and for regional residents. 69 campsites are provided, and a popular adventure playground is located nearby the sandy beach.

Secondary Role
In 2000, 40 ha were added to the park to contribute to the representation of the wet, cool sub-boreal spruce forest.

Known Management Issues	**Response**
Forest Health	Hazard Trees Conduct annual survey to ensure no additional safety threat from Tomentosus root rot. Logging encroaching on park boundary, wind throw potential.
Facility Maintenance	In some years there are also flooding problems at the lower campsites due to high lake levels in spring.
Declining Occupancy	This site is in competition with nearby Crooked River Park (which now has showers) and Tudyah Lake Park.
Adjacency Issues	Timber harvesting to protected area boundaries (potential windthrow issue) Review development plans and monitor industrial activity.
Management Planning	Need to resolve acceptable uses which were deferred from the LRMP table

Zoning

Whiskers Point Park includes two different zones:

- Intensive Recreation (provision of a variety of readily accessible, facility-oriented outdoor recreation opportunities) – approximately 49% of the park.
- Natural Environment (protection of scenic values and provision of backcountry recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment) – approximately 51% of the park.

CONSERVATION

Representation

- ecosection — McGregor Plateau (MCP) Only 0.64% of this ecosection is protected. Whiskers Point is 1 of only 5 protected areas in this ecosection, all of which all small. Whiskers Point contributes 2.24% of the overall representation of this ecosection, although quality of representation is poor given the small size of the park.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant — SBSwk1 – 3.84% protected. Whiskers Point contributes 0.26% of overall representation of this ecosystem unit. Quality of representation is poor given the small size of the park.

Special Feature

Rare/Endangered Values		Unknown
Scientific/Research Opportunities	X	Tomentosus root rot

RECREATION

Representation:

• backcountry		
• destination		
• travel corridor	X	Highway 97 traffic – to a limited degree.
• local recreation	X	Camping for Prince George & Mackenzie residents.

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities	X	Old growth spruce forest

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation — Unknown

Special Feature

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations

Relationship to Other PAs	X	Carp Lake, Crooked River, and Tudyah provincial parks are all within a 30 minute drive from Whiskers Point. Within a 75 km radius, Pine Le Moray, Bijoux provincial parks and one ER are also included.

Co-operative Management Arrangements		
Partnerships		
Vulnerability	X	Forest health issues The Conservation Risk Assessment Process identified 2 risk factors (the shape and the size of the park) for the park and rated them as moderately significant. Four stressors/threats were identified for the park: day use, forest harvesting activity, roadways and petrochemical spill/potential which were all rated as low significance.
Relationship to Other Strategies		Whiskers Point was originally established in 1956 for recreational purposes. A small addition to the north and south of the park to improve viability and representation was supported by the Prince George LRMP. However, the parcel of land to be included to the north of Whiskers was removed as part of the McLeod Lake Band settlement lands. 40 ha was added to the south to rationalize the boundaries and contribute to representation.

Area:	116 hectares
Date of establishment:	Originally established March 16, 1956. 40 ha added to park on June 29, 2000.

Zoning Map - Whiskers Point Provincial Park

Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Intensive Recreation
Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

0 100
m

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